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ABSTRACT

This book is designed to help social studies teachers develop interdisciplinary-integrated curriculum and instruction at the middle grades. The information provided is for preservice and practicing middle grade educators and offers: (1) an overview of the historical and philosophical antecedents of social studies education; (2) a brief review of the developmental characteristics of early adolescence; (3) concrete examples of programs designed to engage students in developing the knowledge and skills for active and responsible citizenship; and (4) a range of tested ideas for challenging young adolescents with academic experiences that address their unique developmental profile. The book is divided into two sections, theory and practice, with three chapters in each section. The six chapters include: (1) "Reviewing the Past, Assessing the Present, Looking to the Future"; (2) "The Nature of the Social Studies"; (3) "Early Adolescence: A Time of Change and Transition"; (4) "Social Studies Curriculum"; (5) "Instruction in Social Studies"; and (6) "Critical Thinking Activities." (EH)

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